PUBLIC NOTICE



US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS APPLICANT: US Army Corps of Engineers

APPLICATION NO: 200430403

WATERWAY: Big Sioux River/Skunk Creek

OMAHA DISTRICT

ISSUE DATE: March 25, 2005 EXPIRATION DATE: April 14, 2005

Regulatory Office, 28563 Powerhouse Rd, Room 118, Pierre, SD 57501 https://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/html/od-rsd/frame.html

21-DAY NOTICE

JOINT NOTICE OF PERMIT PENDING

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS AND

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Under the provisions of Federal regulations 33 C.F.R. 335-337 and instructions from the Office, Chief of Engineers, Washington, D.C., relative to Federal projects involving the discharge of dredged or fill material in waters of the United States, notice is hereby issued to advise interested parties of the proposed Phase II of the Sioux Falls Flood Protection Project on the Big Sioux River and Skunk Creek in Minnehaha County, South Dakota.

Sections 313 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1323 and 1344) require each agency of the Federal Government engaged in any activity resulting in, or which may result in the discharge or runoff of pollutants, to comply with Federal, State, or interstate and local requirements respecting the control and abatement of water pollution to the same extent as any person or entity is subject to such requirements. In accordance with 33 C.F.R. 335-337, activities involving the discharge of dredged or fill material to be performed by the Corps of Engineers will be subject to public review procedures that are followed in processing applications for Section 404 permits.

Proposed Work and Location

The proposed work is part of phase II of a larger, three phase flood protection project. Phase I construction of the project is complete; phase II is scheduled to begin mid-year of 2005. Design and construction of phase III would begin in the spring of 2006. Phase II work consists of 1) placing an inflatable dam directly above the Big Sioux River and Skunk Creek confluence, 2) raising the existing levees along the Big Sioux River and Skunk Creek, and 3) replacing the 41st Street Bridge.

The inflatable dam would be located in the Big Sioux River directly above the Skunk Creek and Big Sioux River confluence (Section 19, Township 101 North, Range 49 West; and Section 24, Township 101 North, Range 50 West); the levee raises would take place on both sides of the banks on the Big Sioux River from the downstream side of the inflatable dam to approximately Interstate 229; on both sides of the banks on Skunk Creek from approximately Marion Road to the confluence with the Big Sioux River, and on both sides of the banks of the "Prairie View Bypass Channel from approximately 57th Street to the confluence with the Big Sioux River; the 41st Street Bridge is located in the southwest corner of Sioux Falls (Sections 30 and 31, Township 101 North, Range 49 West). Each component of the project is described below.

Project Purpose

The purpose of phase II of the overall project is to reduce potential flood damages caused by a 100-year flood on Skunk Creek. Originally, phase II included levee raises from approximately Russell Street to Interstate 229 and from the mouth of Skunk Creek to Marion Road. In light of recent hydraulic analysis, phase II has been changed. Phase II is now comprised of an inflatable dam located above the confluence, levee raises starting directly downstream of the inflatable dam running downstream to Interstate 229 and from the mouth of Skunk Creek to Marion Road and from the mouth of the Prairie View Bypass Channel, and replacement of the existing 41st Street Bridge. The purpose of the inflatable dam is to eliminate a backwater condition on the Big Sioux River during 100-year flood events on Skunk Creek. Raising the existing system of levees will help protect from flood damages. The purpose of the 41st Street Bridge raise is to eliminate the potential structural damage to the existing 41st Street Bridge that would occur during a 100-year flood event on Skunk Creek. Construction of the inflatable dam would last approximately four to six months. Construction of the levee raises would begin approximately mid-year 2005; construction of the levees would last approximately 12 months. The local sponsor (City of Sioux Falls) would be responsible for design and construction of the new 41st Street Bridge and construction would not occur until 2010. The 41st Street Bridge construction would last approximately 12 months.

Inflatable Dam

The inflatable dam would consist of a rubber inflatable bladder placed atop a concrete sill. The sill would be approximately 50 feet wide and 2 feet high, running along the river bottom and up the levee slopes on both sides of the channel. The concrete sill (consisting of approximately 926 cubic yards of concrete) would be placed on top of a foundation of sheet piles, drive piles or another similar material to anchor the sill. A total of approximately 276 cubic yards of riprap (9 inches diameter) would be placed 10 feet upstream (5H:1V slope) and 20 feet downstream (10H:1V slope) of the dam on the bottom of the riverbed on either side of the inflatable dam to protect the sill. The purpose of the riprap is to ensure the inflatable dam is not exposed to outflanking or undercutting on both the upstream and downstream sides. Secondary benefits of the riprap would be that it would abate the safety hazards caused by the water dropping directly over the dam, and aid in fish passage. Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC) or another type of non-corrosive pipe would be installed into either the top of the sill or within the concrete. These pipes would be connected to two rotary positive-type blowers located in a "control house" adjacent to the dam. One blower would be used to inflate the dam, and the other would be used as an emergency backup.

The control house would be located on the landward side of the existing levee on the left bank of the Big Sioux River. The approximate footprint of the control house is 352 square feet. Refer to attachments for general plans of the control house.

When fully inflated, the dam raises to a height of one foot below the new levee height. During non-flood conditions within Skunk Creek the inflatable dam would remain in the deflated position. When deflated, the bladder rests flat on top of the two-foot high sill. The dam would be automatically inflated when a "float" located upstream on Skunk Creek reaches the water level of the 20-year event. Skunk Creek floods occur suddenly from thunderstorms. There is a five percent chance for a 20-year event to occur on Skunk Creek in any given year. The dam would be designed to inflate at a 20-year event on Skunk Creek, and rise in increments according to the water levels to efficiently operate the dam. Inflation time to fully inflate the dam, for 100-year protection, would be approximately 2.5 hours, and the dam would remain inflated for approximately 24 hours. Deflation would last approximately 6 hours, making a total inflation/deflation time of approximately 1.5 days for the 100-year flood. Events less than the 100-year flood would require less time for inflation and deflation. During events greater than the 100-year, the inflatable dam could potentially remain inflated for a longer period of time, but not an extended period of time.

Construction of the foundation for the inflatable dam would require use of temporary dams to allow for excavation. The upstream diversion gates would be closed to divert water away from the construction area. Two cofferdams (combination of sheet piles and rock) would be placed approximately 50 feet upstream and 50 feet downstream of the inflatable dam construction area. The cofferdam upstream would be built to protect the construction area from local runoff. The cofferdam upstream would stretch across the entire width of the channel (250 feet), and would be approximately 6 feet high with a crown width of approximately 6 feet and 3H:1V slopes, utilizing approximately 3,000 cubic yards of rock. The cofferdam downstream would also stretch across the entire width of the channel, and built to the height of the levees (25.8 feet); the crown width of the cofferdam would be approximately 12 feet with 3H:1V slopes, utilizing approximately 15,000 cubic yards of rock. Up to two, two foot by two foot temporary box

culverts, about 250 feet long would be used to pass flow from local runoff upstream of the construction area to downstream of the construction area. The estimated amount of sheet pile would be approximately 2,000 square feet for each cofferdam (4,000 total square feet). Once construction is completed, the channel would be restored to its original condition.

The total footprint of the inflatable dam and riprap is approximately 20,000 square feet (12,500 square feet in the streambed, 7,500 square feet on the banks) or .45 acres. Direct impacts to the streambed would be approximately .28 acres.

The footprint of the temporary dam upstream would be approximately 19,500 square feet, or .45 acres. The footprint of the temporary dam downstream would be approximately 41,750 square feet, or .96 acres.

Raising Existing Levees

Existing levee height would be raised approximately five feet extending the landward toe of the levee downstream of the inflatable dam. The levee raises start directly downstream of the proposed inflatable dam on both sides of the Big Sioux River channel and extend downstream to Interstate 229 extending the landward toe subsequently filling adjacent wetlands. A total of approximately 2.30 acres of wetlands at 11 sites will be impacted. Levees will also be raised from the mouth of Skunk Creek to Marion Road, but no wetlands will be filled. Refer to the attached plans and cross section views of the proposed levee system.

41st Street Bridge Raise

The 41st Street Bridge over the Big Sioux River was originally constructed in approximately 1965 and was widened in approximately 1975. The existing bridge is a 282 foot, 3 span, welded steel plate girder superstructure acting compositely with the cast-in-place concrete deck. A 92 foot clear roadway width is provided along with 1 foot 4 inch wide traffic barrier rails and 5 foot clear sidewalks along each edge resulting in a total out-to-out deck width of 106 feet 10 inches with the inclusion of the pedestrian barrier rails.

The existing bridge is a three span continuous design supported by reinforced concrete piers and abutments. The existing piers are wall type founded on timber piles. The pier wall is 100 feet wide and varies in thickness from 1 foot 9 inches at the top to 3 feet 3 inches at the base. The footing is 101 feet transverse to centerline of the roadway by 10 feet along roadway to 2 feet 6 inches thick.

The proposed 41st Street Bridge is a 304 foot, 3 span rolled steel beam bridge with a composite concrete deck. A 92 foot clear roadway width is provided along with 1 foot 4 inch wide traffic barrier rails and 10 foot clear sidewalk along the northern edge and a 6 foot clear sidewalk along the southern edge resulting in a total out-to-out deck width of 112 feet 4 inches. The number of driving lanes would remain as the existing 7 lanes (6 driving lanes and 1 center turn lane). Provisions would be made to maintain two lanes of traffic in each direction during all phases of construction. Refer to attached plans of the proposed 41st Street Bridge.

Two concrete piers would be constructed in the Big Sioux River channel at the same location as the existing piers. The piers would be founded on steel H-pile supported concrete footings. The approximate footing dimensions are 125 feet transverse to centerline of roadway by 10 feet along centerline of roadway by 3 feet thick. The bottom of the footing would be approximately at elevation 1381.9. The new piers would be similar in type as the existing piers.

The proposed vertical wall abutments with 2H:1V side slopes would be moved back from the existing abutments approximately 11 feet on each side. This would aid in the construction of the proposed abutments.

The old piers would be removed completely and in stages. Most of the concrete from pier removal would not be allowed to remain in the Big Sioux River. Existing timber piles may be removed or allowed to remain in place, pending final design.

During the construction of the piers, a dry environment would be needed. Diversion of the flow would not be possible, so the contractor would need to provide some sort of cofferdam. This cofferdam could be constructed in various ways, such as driven sheet piles. Dewatering would be necessary during construction.

The contractor may construct two temporary water crossings to facilitate access of construction equipment. The 41st Street Bridge would be constructed in phases. The contractor would likely construct a temporary crossing on the upstream of the 41st Street Bridge for construction on the north side (westbound lanes) of the bridge. Upon completion of the construction of the north side (westbound lanes) of the bridge, the contractor may remove the northern temporary crossing and then proceed to construct a southern or downstream temporary crossing. The scheduled removal of the initial temporary crossing would be determined by the contractor. Both temporary crossings may be in place at the same time during the construction period. Once the construction has been completed the temporary crossings will be removed and the areas would be restored to its original condition. The crossings would be approximately 15 foot wide and 15 foot tall with 3H:1V slopes. Three 10 foot by 10 foot box culverts, about 110 feet long would run through the temporary crossing. The estimated amount of material (rock) for the temporary crossing would be approximately 5,500 cubic yards.

Direct impacts to the streambed would be approximately .01 acres. The existing pier footprint is about 450 square feet; the new bridge piers would be about 750 square feet.

The footprint of each temporary crossing for bridge construction would be approximately 26,250 square feet, or .60 acres.

Mitigation

Mitigation for the 2.30 acres of wetland impacts will be at a ratio of 1.5:1 and will consist of wetland restoration at a site located landward of the existing levee on the Big Sioux River, south of 49th Street.

The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Environmental Regulatory, 523 East Capitol Avenue, Pierre, South Dakota, 57501-3181, will review the proposed project for state certification in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The certification, if issued, will express the State's opinion that the operations undertaken by the applicant will not result in a violation of applicable water quality standards. The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources hereby incorporates this public notice as its own public notice and procedures by reference (ARSD 74:51:01).

The Corps of Engineers, Omaha District will comply with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. We have checked the <u>National Register of Historic Places</u> and its current supplements, and there are no known National Register sites in the project area. The project area was disturbed when the original levees were constructed in 1961. In addition, the Corps of Engineers has conducted a cultural resources reconnaissance survey of the project area and no historic properties were located. We will, however, evaluate input by the State Historic Preservation Officer and the public in response to this public notice.

In compliance with the Endangered Species Act, a preliminary determination has been made that the described work is not likely to adversely affect species designated as threatened or endangered or adversely affect critical habitat. The federally listed Bald Eagle and Topeka shiner may occur in the project area. In order to complete our evaluation of this activity, comments are solicited from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested agencies and individuals.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposed activity must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, and, in general the needs and welfare of the people. In addition, the evaluation of the impact of work on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 C.F.R.; Part 230).

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

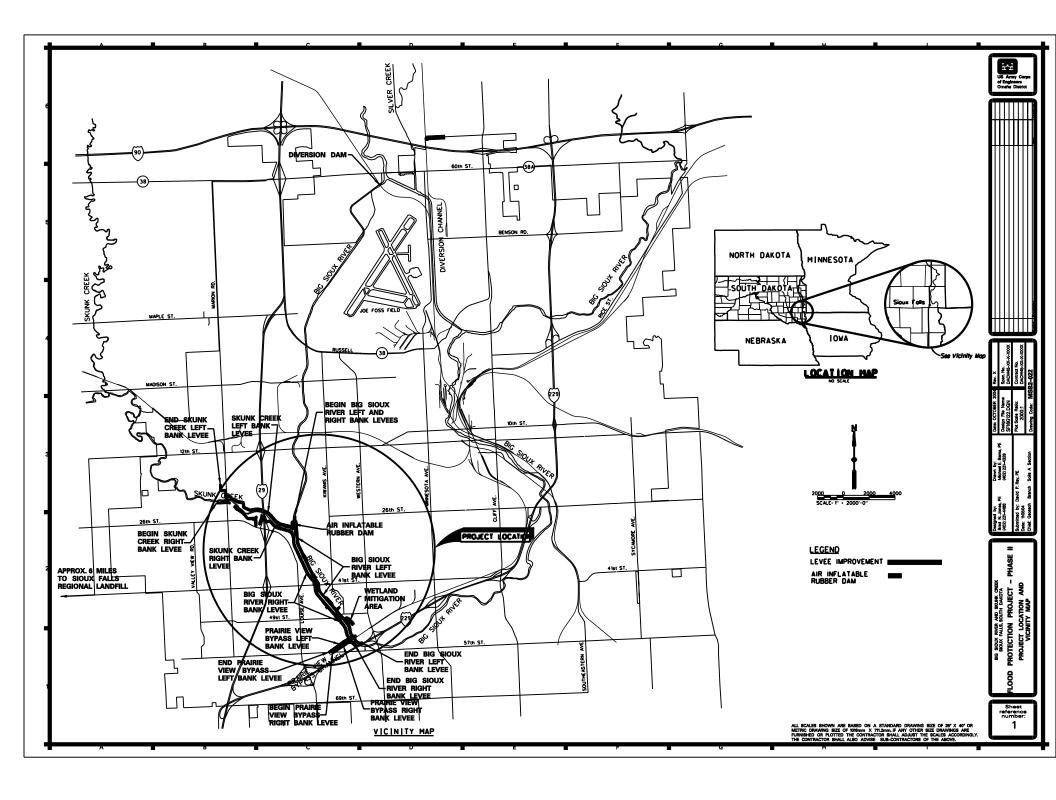
Any person may request, in writing and within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held for the purpose of gathering additional information. Requests for public hearings shall be identified as such and shall state specifically the reasons for holding a public hearing and what additional information would be obtained. Requests should be submitted to the District Engineer, Omaha District, Corps of Engineers, 106 South 15th Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68102-1618. Should the District Engineer decide that additional information is required and a public hearing should be held, interested parties will be notified of the date, time and location.

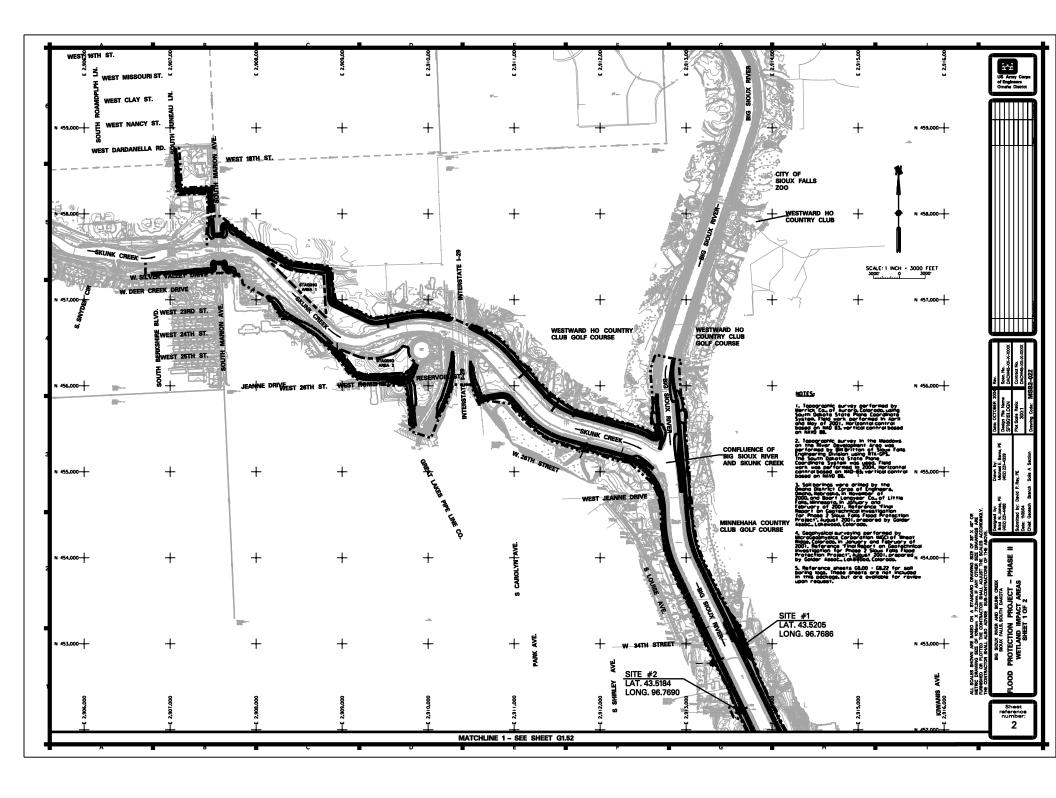
Any interested party (particularly officials of any town, county, state or Federal agency; Indian Tribe; or local association, whose interests may be affected by the work) is invited to submit to this office written facts, arguments, or objections on or before the expiration date listed on the front of this notice. Any agency or individual having an objection to the work should identify their concern or interest with clear and specific reasons. Comments, both favorable and unfavorable, will be accepted, made a part of the record and will receive full consideration in subsequent actions on this application. All replies to the public notice should be addressed to the address listed in the previous paragraph. Ms. Kathy Iske, telephone number (402) 221-3055, may be contacted for additional information. You may also fax your comments to (402) 221-4939 or e-mail them to: Kathy.L.Iske@usace.army.mil.

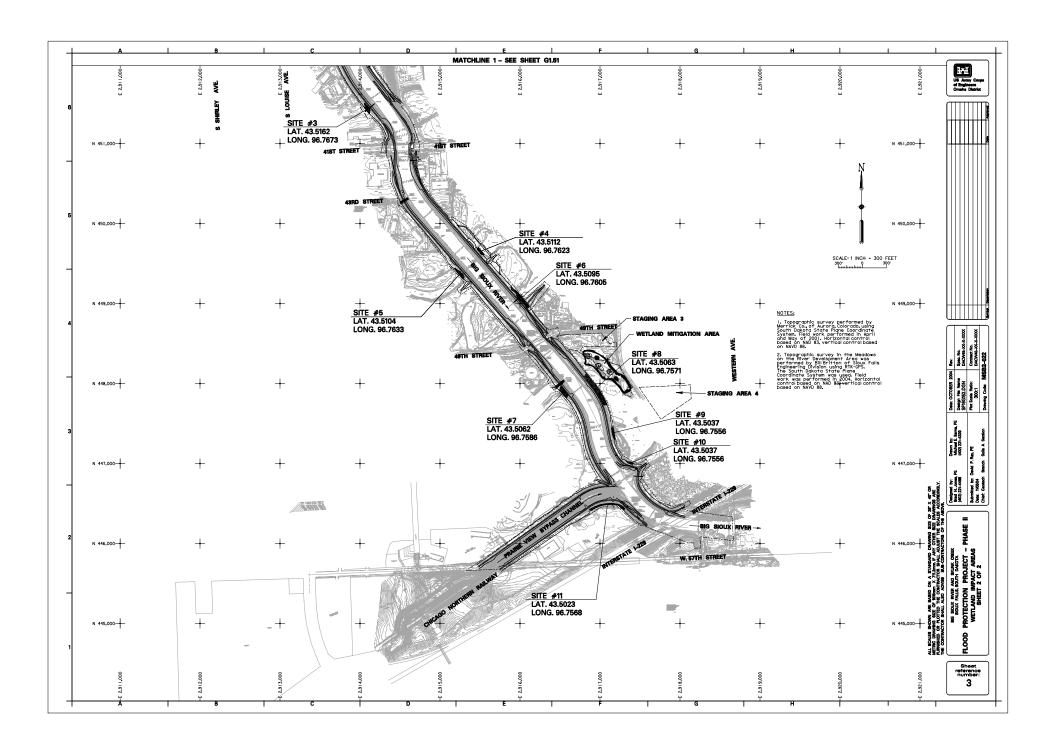
Comments received after the close of business on the expiration date of this public notice will not be considered.

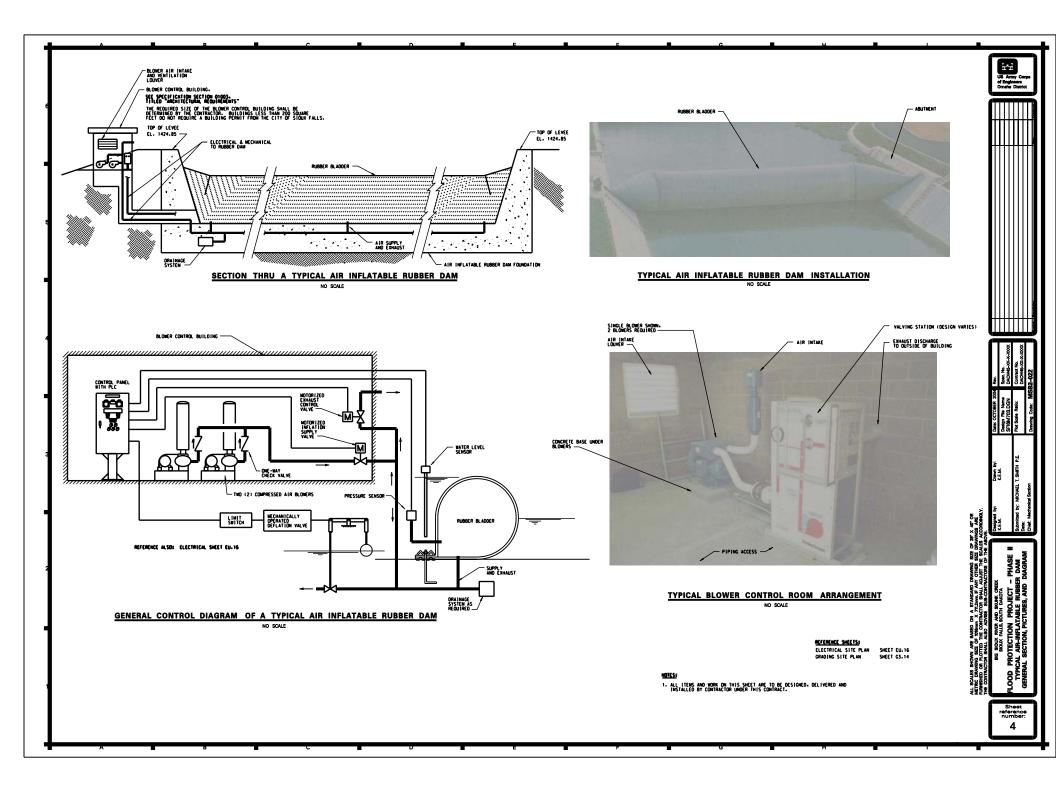
A permit, if issued, will be under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

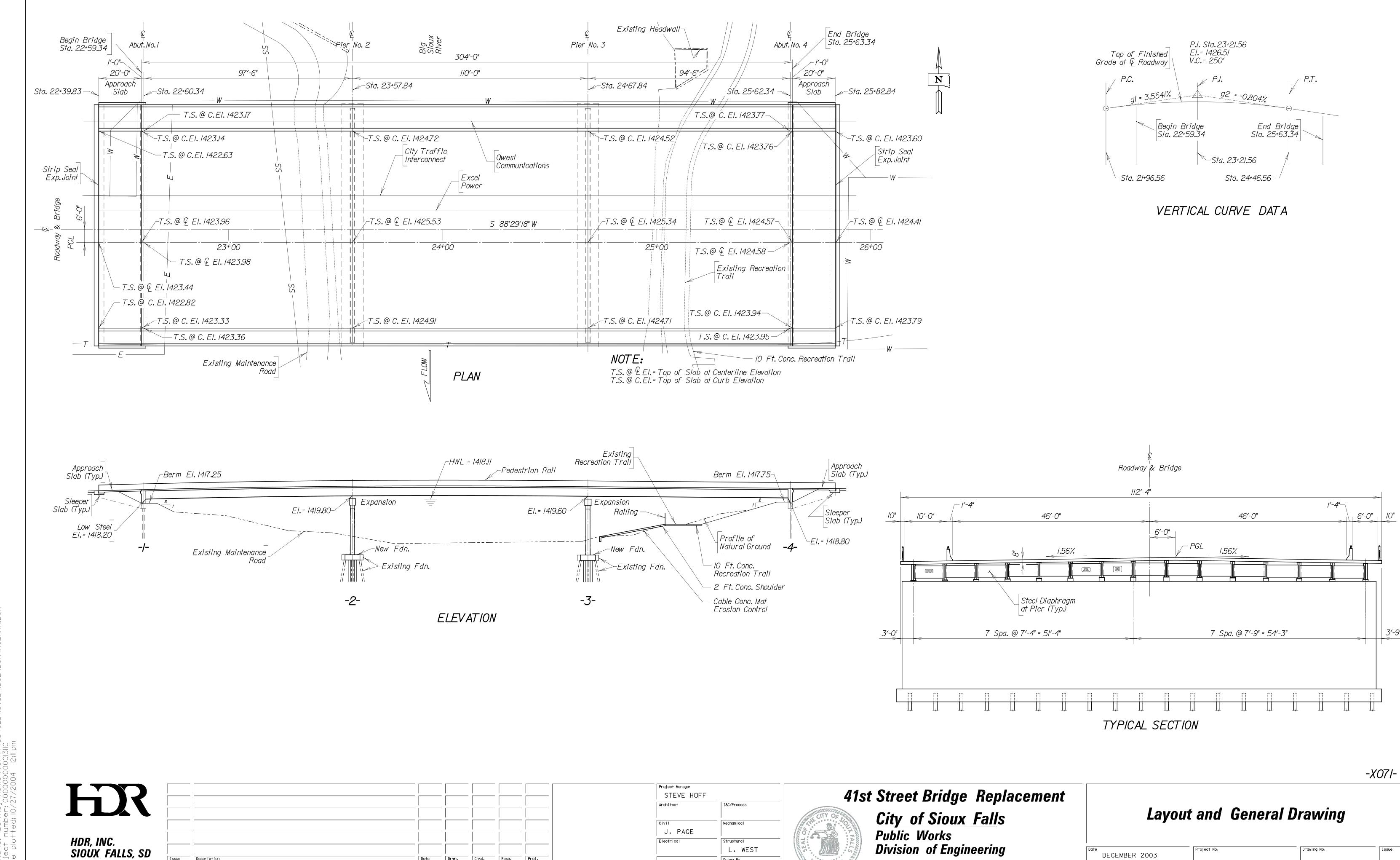
Drawings showing the location and extent of the work are attached to this notice.











R. ALVOID

DECEMBER 2003

2004

Sioux Falls, South Dakota

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